

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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The Miners' Song.

BY JIM CONNELL.

Arise, Deep in Canadian woods we're not,
Deep in the gloom of the great earth's womb
We force the birth of coal,
The power that moves the nation's wheels
To the furnace fires we roll.
We dig out wealth at the cost of health
To guild oppression's shrine;
'Twill aye be so
For a wage of woe
Till the miners own the mine.
We furnish forth to the south and north
The force that drives the mill;
We make the snorting engine dash
Through forest, fen, and hill;
We rush the lordly ocean craft
Across the bounding brine;
'Twill aye be so
For a wage of woe
Till the miners own the mine.
We move the ranks of the cogs and cranks
Which grind out food and clothes;
We warm the walls of the festive halls
When the wintry tempest blows;
We cook the fare and we make the glare
Where lords and ladies dine;
'Twill aye be so
For a wage of woe
Till the miners own the mine.
We take the risk of the awful whisk
When the rotten cable breaks;
We pierce the deadly after-damp
When the chattered ceiling shakes;
We search the wreck for mangled mates
And health and life resign;
'Twill aye be so
For a wage of woe
Till the miners own the mine.
But we see a light through the breaking night
And a smiling dawn we greet.
We'll toil no more in the planet's core
For a crust and a winding sheet;
We'll drive despair from the bright'ning air,
And hands and hearts combine;
And we'll fit our health
In the Commonwealth
When the miners own the mine.

The Passing Show.

The working-man must be taught.—Daily Paper.

The working-man must be taught what his industrial wrongs are and how to fight them.

This teaching must go on all the time—before elections, during elections, and after elections. Political parties make a great noise during elections, but the Socialist Party works all the time. It will continue to work until millions of workers unite for the triumph of their own class.

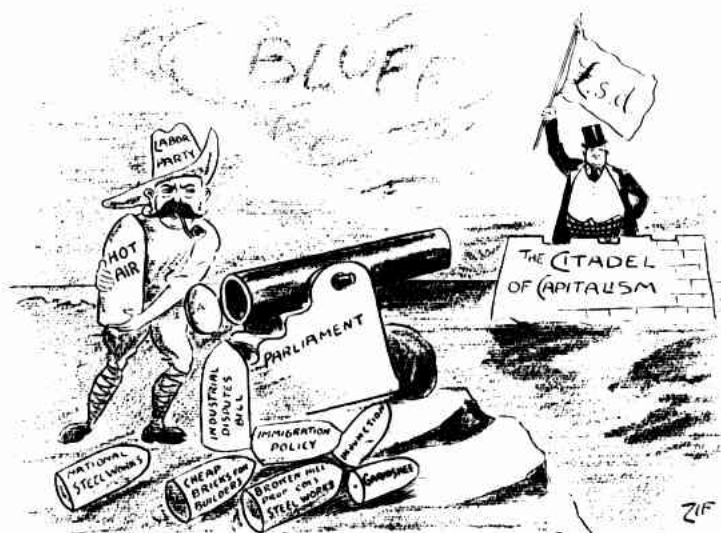
The Socialist philosophy necessitates careful and earnest study, but it repays those well who study it. It enables them to get down through superficial errors to deeper gems of truths. As Dryden says:

Errors, like straws, upon the surface flow;
He who would search for pearls must dive below."

Militarism has one marked peculiarity: it renders its devotees incapable of logical thought. In reaching wrong conclusions from simple every-day facts they cannot be outdone by any other section of the public. The lesson they draw from the Balkan war is that the Turks were unprepared, inefficient, and untrained, while the Bulgarians were gifted with every military qualification, toughness, grit, discipline, and training. It is argued that the untrained Turks could not stand before the fully trained Bulgarians, and Australia is warned that it must train if it would be safe. But the Turks have been training and fighting for hundreds of years, and in 1908 the Turkish Government employed General Von der Goltz, of the German Army, to reorganise and train the Turkish army for war. General Goltz did what he could with the remains of the once powerful fighting machine, but it was not what it once was. War kills off the physically finest men of a nation and leaves the weaker ones. In time, training and fighting renders a nation unfit to fight. The Turks have reached that stage in their mad military career.

As for the Bulgarians, they are going the way the Turks have gone. They mobilised 300,000 fully-trained, well-disciplined, perfectly-armed and equipped men, and launched them over their frontier against the Turks. They commenced to drive the Turks back to Constantinople. It was

Harmless to Capitalists; but injurious to Workers.



Mr. Wood, Liberal Leader, (in New South Wales Parliament):—"This is not a fight. It's a sham fight."
"Every Tory with sufficient intelligence to think for himself, independently of the stock gags of his class, knows quite well that there is no real menace to capital in the Labor Party's propaganda."—Bulletin.

"hard pounding," but they pounded the Turks out of Kirk Kilisse and Lule Burgas, and swept on to Adrianople and Chaldja. They lost 100,000 men out of 300,000 and fought themselves to a standstill. To continue their "successes" would necessitate the sacrifice of perhaps another 100,000 men between Chataldja and Constantinople, whom the Bulgarians, not having the numbers to draw upon, could not replace. To gratify their "craving for vengeance" they have sacrificed the flower of their stock and have exhausted themselves in doing it. A few more months of fighting, and Bulgaria will lose all her finest men, and have, as a result, weakness and debt. War, we are told, develops the race by destroying the weaker nations, but it first renders nations weak by killing off the sturdiest and healthiest men and leaving the old men and weaklings to breed from.

A writer in "Sydney Daily Telegraph" says "Physically and intellectually the young men of Australia should be as nearly as possible the ideal material out of which to manufacture an army." This is a doubtful compliment. "Intellectually," the most warlike people are on a very low plane, and if "young men of Australia" are "ideal material" for an army it doesn't say much for their mental make up. Men who can be made into cannon targets are not very "intellectual."

"Mr. Carmichael has made out a good case for the Gas Bill as it now stands, and we entirely agree with him. The position of the companies will be adequately regulated, their accounts will be made intelligible, and the public interest will be duly protected and gas cheapened. We shall look forward to the time when the metropolitan companies will supply gas at 3s. 2d., and will pay their shareholders 11 per cent. on their enlarged capitals."—"Daily Telegraph," Sydney.

The Capitalist organ recognises when the interests of its class are served by Labour Ministers. According to the "Telegraph," Mr. Carmichael is protecting the interests of the public, while making it possible for the Co. to supply gas at 3s. 2d., and pay its shareholders 11 per cent. on their watered stock.

Some of the Waihi miners, who were hunted out of the town, owned their own houses in Waihi. The scabs and thugs damaged the strikers' houses and smashed their furniture. This ought to show that it is bad tactics for the militant workers to "own property." Had the strikers owned nothing beyond their "few sticks," any damage done to the houses would have had to be borne by the landlords, and they would have squeaked against the scabs. In that case, it wouldn't have mattered to the strikers much if the houses were destroyed. As it is, many of them will be compelled to go back against their will, merely because they have "property" in Waihi. A militant worker should never anchor himself to a bit of land and a house anywhere under the present system, but should be able to

leave, at short notice, any district with as little loss as possible. Buying a house in a town where his job is owned by someone else, is handicapping himself in any industrial conflict that happens along afterwards.

The British suffragettes are gradually reducing the Liberal Government to a compliant state. For fifty years they asked for the vote and were laughed at, but since they took to setting fire to the stock-jobbers' correspondence in the letter pillars certain members of the Government are discovering that their claim is a "just one."

During a debate in the French Chamber of Deputies, Dec. 3, Socialists and Anti-militarists were denounced "for inciting the troops to insubordination." The Capitalists said it was "an abominable crime against the fatherland." The matter is beginning to wear a serious aspect for them and a proposal was tabled to deprive army deserters of their electoral rights. It is doubtful if this loss will have much effect on the deserters, as they are too busy getting away from the Army to think of the value of the ballot. M. Millerand denounced the anti-militarists for advocating sabotage in case of mobilisation, and it was disclosed that during the Moroccan crisis it was found necessary to take special steps against the anti-militarists before mobilisation could be rendered possible. Propaganda in the Army is being vigorously prosecuted. It is the new sport of large numbers who delight in seeing the plumes rage.

Consequent on the drought in South Africa, residents in the stricken areas are urging the Government to suspend the duty on maize to allow of supplies being imported. Large stocks are stored in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, but are being deliberately held by the owners for famine prices. No one has yet suggested that the people should make a dash for it, because everybody is hoping that the Government (the owners) will do something. No doubt they will to send prices still higher.

On Dec. 4, Stedman's and Co., Ltd., Sydney, were proceeded against by the City Council Inspector on an information that the company was using for the purposes of manufacture of food for sale premises which were not kept clean. The Company pleaded guilty and was fined £5. The prosecuting evidence was that at the time of the inspection there were four boiling vats on a raised platform on the top floor which were thickly covered with stale lollies and dirt. There were three pairs of old boots under a table mixed with lollies. The floor of an adjoining room was thickly covered with stale lollies. There were also other parts of the building unclean, and there were no retiring rooms for male or female. When spoken to, Mr. Stedman said, "We are working day and night, and the place has not been cleaned for a month."

Defendant said that it was not his fault that the boots and clothing were lying

about. He had provided a dressing-room for the employees, but they would not use it."

"It is no use my talking to them," remarked defendant, "and I cannot sack them, because if I do I cannot get any others."

In imposing a fine of £5, with 6s. costs, Mr. Payten, S.M., said it was unreasonable to allow a place to go so long without being cleaned up.

Defendant said that "things really looked worse than they were."

Such is production for profit rather than for use.

"S. M. Herald," Dec. 6, protested against the boycotting of non-unionists at Hill End, and printed the following report:—

"Things connected with the branch of the Miners' Union here have taken quite a sudden turn. It is considered an unpardonable offence to go into any of the mines without first taking a union ticket. Then when one has taken the ticket one has all sorts of insults to put up with if a Liberal. The unionists affirm, that one cannot be a Liberal and a unionist. The union rules also state that no Liberal shall be allowed to hold office in the union, and, further, he is compelled to pay for the "Worker," and the rules also state that each branch shall pay £20 per year towards a political fighting fund for the Labour Party. Because a Liberal refused to take a ticket and swallow this political labour combination the men left one mine. This is really a Liberal mine. It is understood that all the directors are Liberals, and the mine manager a staunch Liberal. There is no doubt but 90 per cent. of the capital spent is Liberal money; yet, in spite of this fact, a Liberal is not allowed to work in the mine unless he joins the union. It is strange in a little place like this, where the men have worked side by side for the last 20 years without question, that the unionists should suddenly discover a man (Liberal) is not good enough to work with unless he joins the union." The Liberals in the township are in a two to one majority."

The boycotting of Liberals and non-unionists has been caused by Liberal employers. The victimisation of union officials by Liberal employers, the hostility of Liberal politicians, and the abuse and misrepresentations of unionists in the Liberal Press have all helped to convince the unionist that the Liberal in any shape or form is a danger to him. He refuses to work with him because he knows that he is a tool of the enemy in the great class struggle. If the "Herald" was sincerely opposed to boycotting it should protest against Liberal employers discharging and boycotting men because they take an active interest in unionism.

The most objectionable thing about the action of the Hill End miners is that they do not carry their boycott far enough. In compelling members of the union to support the "Worker" and pay £20 per year towards the Labour Party's fighting fund they are inconsistent. The Labour Party passes Liberal legislation, which the Employers' Federation has endorsed, and the South Australian and Queensland Liberal Governments have copied N.S. Wales Industrial legislation in similar acts. There is no difference in principle between Labour and Liberal legislation and the drastic methods of its enforcement. Both have fined and gaoled unionists, but it has remained for the Labour Party to garnishee their wages. The "Worker" is the official organ of the Labour Party, and as such supports the legislative Acts of the Party. It is in perfect agreement with the Liberal press on such matters as the Conscription Act which means the death of unionism and the complete subjection of every worker under a system of industrial Conscription. The Hill End miners mean well, but they are behind the times and unaware of the trend of events.

The Sydney "Sun" is beginning to show its daily contemporaries a few points. It recently got the Sugar Commission's Report before the Federal Parliament or any other paper got it, and Hon. Members said this was a "scandalous state of affairs." It also caught the morning papers printing its special cables, mistakes and all, and amused the public with the exposure. The trust organ will show the others many little Yankee ways of "getting in front."

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The industrial freedom of the working-class is infinitely more important than anything else, and the building up of a working-class party for the freedom of the working-class is the first thing to be done.

The Lesson of Waihi.

Workers being Driven to adopt other Tactics.

No use fighting Capitalists with money, nor scabs with weapons.

The capitalist press claims the result of the Waihi Strike "as one of the most decisive victories of organized free labor over unionists ever won in the Southern Hemisphere," but it is one of those doubtful victories which it would have been better not to have won. It is a victory which will drive another nail into the coffin of capitalism.

During the later stages of the conflict, the strikers had all the forces of Government arrayed against them; also the press, and that portion of the working class which does not think for itself, but is swayed by the constant repetition of gross misrepresentations of the aims, objects, and methods of those on strike.

Under a pretence of protecting those who desired to work, a large body of police was sent to Waihi by the Government of New Zealand, while the mine-owners, pretending to employ "free-labor," got together a force of toughs and thugs, which could be used to abolish picketing and terrorise the strikers and their wives and families.

The capitalists of Waihi knew that the public is easily hoodwinked and bluffed, and that public sentiment can be manufactured, influenced, and turned in a given direction by an outward show of honesty and fair-dealing, and they set their hirelings to work to burn the red flag, while they sang "God Save the King," hoisted the Union Jack, and battered the Unionists, and took possession of their property.

The singing of "God Save the King," and hoisting the Union Jack, has the same effect upon Anglo-Saxons that a whiff of smoke has upon a hive of bees: it stupefies them, and prevents them from seeing that they are being cheated. Once the thugs at Waihi had sung the national anthem, waved the Union Jack, and burnt the red flag, all their acts, however illegal, were backed by Anglo-Saxon sentiment and it was open to them to give free play to their hatred of the Unionists upon strike. This they did by instituting a man-hunt, and a reign of terror, so that neither man, woman, nor child was safe in the town if they were known to be in sympathy with the strikers. After the thugs had made their display of bogus patriotism and religion, all things were possible to them. The police looked on, the press applauded, and the Church blessed every act of theirs as being as sacred as were the wars of the Crusaders.

As the capitalistic press says, there is a lesson to be drawn from the strike, but it is a very different one from that which it draws. The lesson that militant labor will have forced upon it, is that it is useless to fight capital with money, for the Waihi strikers were liberally supplied with money by the organized labor of all Australasia; yet they lost. Further, militant labor will see that it is useless fighting thugs and scabs, for the Capitalists do not care if unionists and scabs kill and eat each other to the last man, so long as property is not interfered with and destroyed. There are plenty of men to be obtained at no cost, so that the Capitalist is quite safe in setting scabs against workers, and promoting the destruction of life. The Capitalist does not value the lives of workers. He values property and profits. Any attack on property and profits alarms the Capitalist class far more than the noise of riot and bloodshed does. Any capitalistic government would do what the New Zealand Government did when it sent the police to Waihi to assist in bludgeoning the strikers, and the more disposition the strikers showed to fight, the more brutal and murderous would the forces backed by the Government become.

These facts will most likely lead the Waihi strikers and other workers to consider whether in future it will not be better to stick to the job instead of leaving it to strike. The scab-evil can certainly be fought better

by the workers keeping on the job than by leaving it to the enemy. The property and profits, and the increase of the capital of the master-class, can be attacked by the workers on the job in a hundred different ways when they are sufficiently organized for offensive tactics, and it may be that in destroying the right to strike, in using scabs, thugs, and police, to brutally ill-treat and defeat strikers, the master-class are forcing the workers to adopt tactics of a much more dangerous character to them.

Labor Legislation Harmless to Capitalists.

The leader of the "Bulletin" of November 28, is a thing of beauty and a joy forever. It takes the Tories severely to task for their insane opposition to their best friends the Labour Party. The "Bulletin" shows how harmless labour legislation really is, and how it conserves the interests of capitalists. It does this in the interests of the Labour Party whose leaders are fond of posing as the opponents of vested interests, monopolies, trusts, and other institutions which are set up and maintained by those whom the Party denounces as "Capitalist robbers." The "Bulletin" contends that any Tory with a grain of sense knows that there is no real menace to Capital in the Labour Party's proposals. The concluding portion of the article is too good to be lost, as it clearly shows how the disillusioned, disgusted, and shocked workers are turning from the Labour-Liberal sham fight to the party which is in earnest and means real business. Here it is:—

That the section of the community which consists mainly of loyalists and Imperialists and persons with a stake in the country should find itself in the same political galley, more or less, with the section which is pledged to pull up every stake in the Commonwealth, and disperse Private Property to the four winds of Heaven and utterly overturn the established order of things, is another instance of the weird way in which our imbecile Party Government system works out. Every Tory with sufficient intelligence to think for himself, independently of the stock gags of his class, knows quite well that there is no real menace to Capital in the Labour Party's propaganda. On the contrary, The Australian Labor statesman must, no doubt, concede more than the corresponding reformer in Europe for the simple reason that the people he is catering for are better educated, and consequently demand more than their European prototypes do. In Britain the safety-valve is a trying circumstance; here it is necessarily an imposing affair, with an orifice like the mouth of a cannon. But in both cases the principle is the same. In both cases the poor are getting no more than they have a right to ask; and in both cases the rich are getting good value by way of insurance on the security of their possessions out of the increased taxes they are called upon to pay. But it is against the rules of the Party game for a loyal Liberal to admit any of these things. The harmless politicians of the Federal and State Labour parties, most of whose measures are framed with the object of legislatively righting certain obvious wrongs, with the least possible damage to vested on any other interest—must be limned on the one hand as mad-headed and reckless thieves, and on the other as miserable weaklings who have gone back on their convictions and become the hirelings of the wealthy. And as one result of this lying a shocked stream of workers is steadily flowing from the moderate or Labour Party into the extremist or Red Rag Party.

Debs's Presidential Campaign.

While the capitalist papers here have discussed the vagaries of Taft, Roosevelt, and Wilson during the recent presidential election, they have pursued the ostrich-like policy of hiding the facts connected with Eugene Debs's candidature. But the "truth will out" and we find from Socialist papers that despite the fact that the Socialist Party had the smallest financial war chest of all the competing parties, it nevertheless made a big fight of it. The workers who backed the Socialist candidate displayed unbounded enthusiasm throughout the contest, and the votes they polled were untainted by the graft and greed of ordinary capitalist politics.

On "Socialist Day," over 6000 meetings were held in the cities and towns of the United States, and the Socialist message must have been simultaneously delivered to millions.

At Debs's meeting at Madison Square Gardens, New York, over 20,000 people assembled, and the candidate received an ovation which lasted 26 minutes. This was equalled by Debs's meeting at Philadelphia, where 20,000 people filled the Sangerfest Convention Hall, a larger building than any of the other parties took or needed for their meetings. No less than 15,000 tickets were sold in advance for this meeting at 15 cents each. As the candidate appeared, the great hall resembled a sea of fluttering red flags—which Debs described as "A Red Sea of Socialism."

Debs dealt with his opponents in sledgehammer style. At the Madison Square Gardens, he said:

"Not one of the capitalist Presidential candidates has ever been in jail in the interest

Victimisation.

A Weapon Fatal to Unionism.

How the Bosses Boycott and Silence Union Officials. No work for agitators.

BY F. J. R.

From the days of slavery to those of today, wagedom, the roadway of progress has been strewn with the bodies of countless millions of working men and women.

This struggle will go on whilst one class, the owning class, that does no reproductive labor, enjoys the fruits of the labor of another class—the non-owning class, who do all the reproductive labor of society. This class, the working class, transforms the barren fields into waving cornfields. They cover the habitable globe with teeming cities, railways, telegraphic communications, mills, factories workshops; they build and work the mammoth ocean liners: yet their lot in life is ceaseless toil from early morn till night, from the cradle to the grave, to produce every luxury that this idle, non-productive parasitical class may squander.

Who is content whilst these conditions exist? Who is satisfied to see year by year the labor of the working class becoming more and more reproductive whilst they are proportionately receiving a smaller and still smaller part of it back in the form of wages. The answer rings from every rebel breast, clear and plain.

This answer echoes from the dim and distant past. Men and women from the ranks of the workers in the days gone by, rose and revolted as a protest against brutal working conditions.

True, they were only slaves, and chattel slaves at that, but they were just what you, just what I would have been had we lived in those glorious days that the ruling class poets sing so much of. They were the hewers of wood, the drawers of water. They were the working men and women that did all the useful work of society of those days. They revolted against unjust conditions, and the consequence was they were slaughtered in thousands. Slaughtered because they dared demand better conditions of life.

It is a painful march from the days of the loathsome dungeon, the stake, the gibbet, to those of to-day. But behind all this hideous persecution, we can see, burning as a beacon, the noble, self-sacrifice of members of our class. It is this bravery, this sacrifice that has been made in the past, that inspires us with hopes, great hopes, greater than ever dreamed of before, for the future.

The struggle has not finished. Recent events, the development of modern industry, show that the greatest fights have yet to come. Reports come to hand every day of the sanguinary encounters that are taking place between the forces of organized capitalism and organized labor. In America to-day, there are dozens of towns under martial law. The struggle is not between nation and nation, but between class and class—the master-class against the working-class, the master-class using the lash of hunger and the organized forces of the constabulary and soldiery to intimidate the workers.

The lash of hunger, the whip of intimidation, the fear of victimisation, is the most effective weapon the master-class have ever used to subdue the working-class. This is the weapon that is being used to-day in an organized manner. It is not in one industry or one trade or calling that it is being used. It is used everywhere.

The Lithgow strike proved how the forces of Capitalism were organized: the employing class had behind them the whole weight of the political machine known as Parliament, the police courts, the constabulary, the press, the church, and every other function that depends upon the bolstering up of the present system. When stating that the parliamentary political machine was aiding the employers it must be remembered that a so-called working-class party were administering the political destinies of a capitalist State, also that the representative of these men in Parliament sat behind this Government, and acquiesced in their doings. It must always be borne in mind, also, that this fight was not one for shorter hours, for more wages, for better conditions generally. It was simply a fight of whether a wage worker should be victimised or not.

In each of the three coal-mining districts of the State, a board representing the various lodges, met at varying periods in conference, which are commonly known as delegate board meetings. They met to dis-

of the working class. Not one of the capitalist Presidential candidates has ever done a day's work for wages. Not one of them has ever known what it means to hunt a job. Not one of them has ever been on strike. Not one of them knows what it means when on strike to be enjoined by a capitalist court. Not one of them has ever been beaten over the head by a brutal policeman. . . . Not one of them has been born in the working class. Not one of them has been reared in the working class. Not one of them has suffered in and with the working class. If you are a working man and are in any of the old parties, you are as out of place there as John D. Rockefeller would be in a Socialist Party.

ness the working conditions of the district. If the mining laws governing the safe working of coal mines is being violated, it is sent from the individual lodge to the delegate board, which is composed of miners of the different lodges in the district, to discuss the matter, and determine some action.

These delegate boards are a menace to the mine owners. They realise that when a body of men representing a number of lodges come together to discuss matters and make united demands, they are far more powerful than if each individual lodge discussed only its own grievances, and made its own representation to the Combined Mine Owners' Association. The owners would like to see each lodge singly crawling up and begging for concessions. They know full well that if they could bring about such a state of affairs, it would not be very long before they would be able to smash all semblance of unionism in the coal industry. They intended to smash the delegate board. Their weapon was victimisation, the lash of hunger.

The strongest employer was selected to do the fighting. A miner working in this employer's coal mine had been selected as a delegate to the delegate board. A meeting of the board was called. He went. Upon his return he was told point blank that there was no more work for him in that colliery, on account of the part he took in Union movement. The position was: this individual represented the organized workers; if they allowed him to be discharged in this manner, for such an offence, if they had allowed him to be victimised, it would have meant the end of the industrial organisation in that district. For had he gone, the question would have arisen: Who is going to be the next lodge delegate? No unionist, with the slightest backbone, with any principles at all, would have dared to represent this body of men. If he did, he would have gone the same way. The same tactics would have been pursued with the various other delegates of the other lodges represented, and the result would have been the smashing of the delegate board. The miners determined to fight. For ten months the battle raged. The result is history to-day. The miners were routed. Four of them were imprisoned, three doing nine months have since been liberated; the fourth is still confined in the cold cells of a Labor Government's Bastille. The man over whom the fight was fought is to-day many miles from Lithgow. The Coal Owners' Federation won.

Another instance of the awful brutality and disastrous effectiveness of the master-class' weapon of victimisation, is the Mount Lyell disaster.

Some twelve months ago, the men in this mining district, were working under the most wretched conditions. Through the Miners' Union attempts were made to rectify these grievances. One unionist took a prominent part in the agitation. The employers realised he was a danger; he was a menace to their dividends. They sacked him because he was a union representative, and had come on the mine on union business. The men protested; their protest was in vain. They struck work on behalf of their fellow unionist. Eleven weeks the fight waged. The men lost. The unionist was victimised, and is to-day wandering about Australia with a young wife and family seeking a master to employ him.

A few months after this strike the men realised that their working conditions were positively dangerous to life. They protested time and time again. They approached the Government and told the Ministry that their conditions of work were dangerous. They had no effective industrial organisation to back up their protestations. Their militant men had been victimised. Any member that advocated direct action found things made so hot for him that he either cleared or shut up. The result of this victimisation was two frightful mining disasters. Had the union been strong enough to demand safer working conditions, these accidents would never have occurred. Every practical miner realises the danger of any mine that has only one exit. He realises that a fall of ground, an inrush of water, of gas, or a fire (all of which are every-day occurrences) will cut him off from the only exit. The result can only be certain death.

These men were compelled to work under these conditions: Twelve hundred feet under ground, and only one exit. Yet these men were afraid to complain in an organised manner. To-day 42 men are sleeping that long sleep, 42 men are slumbering peacefully in that hell-hole, waiting for the water to come up and submerge them. What a dreadful sight awaits those that will bring these bodies to the surface. Scores of mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, will never look upon the faces of those loved so never look upon the faces of those they loved so well. Thousands mourn the loss of these brave men, who every day risked their lives in this death-trap in order to earn their daily bread. Australia shook when it read in the press of the deeds of heroism of those brave men, who were prepared to risk their lives in order to rescue their mates. Yet these were the same men that this same cowardly press a few short months before were vilifying because they dared ask that conditions should be so altered as to make such an accident as this impossible.

Victimisation was the direct cause of the Mount Lyell disaster.

(To be continued).

Why Capitalism Should be Overthrown.

A Calous Commercial System.

Under Capitalism, Poverty walks abroad, Disease is rife, and Homes are Wrecked.

BY J. R. WILSON.

Socialists declare they stand for the overthrow of Capitalism; nothing less. On the other hand there are those who consciously or unconsciously stand for its perpetuation, whether consciously or unconsciously helping to prolong the life of our social economic system matters not, to the Socialist who, taking his stand firmly upon the class struggle, declares that those not with him are against him.

But why seek the overthrow of Capitalism and the inauguration of a Socialist State; what's wrong with our own commercial system, asks the man or woman, evidently blind and deaf.

A glance at our industrial world will convince those who care to note facts, that poverty walks abroad, that disease is rife, that homes are being wrecked, while the greed of a callous commerce fattens and batters upon the young life's blood of the nations of the earth.

Everywhere: the same industrial Despotism; everywhere the same oppression. And on the other hand everywhere, the same groping in the dark by those oppressed, for a way out of the industrial Hell.

But to return to the main issue meanwhile, namely, the demonstrating that there exists round the base of our commercial systems, misery practically untold, unemployment, crime, and disease, one has but to refer to Government statistics, or even to the Plute press, the latter in itself when intelligently read, furnishing a sufficient indictment of modern Capitalism. That conditions in Australia are not as bad as in the older countries of the world, may be disputed, but the difference is so small it is hardly worth quarrelling over, while upon the other hand it is well to remember that what the development of Capitalism has made possible elsewhere, is also inevitable here.

If we take what is considered to be the most fully developed industrial country in the world, namely, the United States, Robert Hunter, an American author, in his "Book Problems of Poverty," furnishes us with a few figures which indicate clearly the degradation which Capitalism entails. He says there are in fairly prosperous times in the United States alone, 10,000,000 persons in poverty, that are underfed, under-clothed, and poorly housed. Of these, he remarks, 4,000,000 are public paupers, and 2,000,000 workmen are employed from four to six months in the year. Over 1,700,000 little children are forced to become wage-earners; about 5,000,000 women find it necessary to work, and about 2,000,000 are employed in factories and mills, while 1,000,000 workers are killed in industry each year, and about 10,000,000 persons now living will, if the present ratio is kept up, die of the preventable disease, tuberculosis.

But to return to conditions in Australia, which are supposed to be ever so much superior to any other country, what do we find?

In the "Age" of June 10 of this year, we are informed that 4000 people die every year in Australia from consumption, which the same paper tells us is a preventable disease, due to malnutrition. The Sydney "Star" of June, 1910, reviewing the work of the Salvation Army for the previous year, informs us that at the various Salvation Army headquarters every day, 3000 men, women, and children, are housed, clothed, and fed; that 498 girls and 521 boys are dealt with in industrial homes, and that 15 rescue homes received from streets, courts and gaols, no less than 587 persons. We are also reminded in the concluding part of the same article that similar activity marked the work of the Leagues of Mercy.

By the "Sydney Morning Herald" of 20/9/11 we are informed that at the fourth annual meeting of the City Night Refuge Society 81,245 men were supplied in Sydney alone with free meals during one year, 30,624 with free beds, while shelter was afforded to women and children on no less than 1252 occasions.

Note readers the above titbits of information concerning conditions within the Commonwealth have all been gleaned from the Capitalist press, so they cannot dispute the figures given; and warrant my turning for a further illustration to a Socialist paper known as the "People," which in an August issue of 1911 states that in 1900 2130 children under sixteen were employed in N.S. Wales factories, and that in 1909 the number had risen to 4,413.

Enough, Enough, there is no reason to cull from Socialist papers, the plute press in every State in the Commonwealth, when dealing with the annual reports of the various charitable, religious, and other institutions could be quoted to prove that all States are alike, in proportion to their population. Poverty, disease, and unemployment caused by our insane commercial system, where, laughing to scorn all the efforts of philanthropists, and demonstrating that only a great and sweeping change in the basis of society such as all Socialists

speak of, and which means the complete overthrow of capitalism, will establish conditions that will give wellbeing and comfort to all.

Of course there are those who argue that poverty is an individual matter due to drunkenness, thriftlessness, laziness, etc. Those well intentioned ignoramuses, of course, fail to understand the economic factors at work, or perhaps have never thought seriously about the matter, and of course repeat offhand any excuse tendered by capitalist apologists.

As a matter of fact, poverty is not due to drunkenness, but drunkenness is very often due to poverty, the conditions under which many toil and live being so degrading that they take to drink as a solace. Besides, if poverty is due to drunkenness how is it that the sober Mohammedan is the most poorly paid, and that in the dry towns of New Zealand and the prohibition States of America poverty is as rife as elsewhere. As regards thriftlessness, the argument is absurd; thriftless, just fancy, that is extravagant. Why, the wages of the average worker compel him to be thoroughly frugal, which accounts for the working class as a whole eating and drinking the cheapest, while producing also the best, wearing the shoddy garments while producing silks, living in slums while building mansions. We of the working class are told our poverty is due to thriftlessness. Then as regards poverty being due to laziness, there has been no greater slander uttered. Would that the working class claimed greater leisure, even at the risk of being branded as lazy. As a matter of fact, the workers of this and every other country are if anything criminally industrious, while their exploiters who talk glibly about the dignity of labour, etc., never soil their lily-white hands, and never perform a single useful function. Clearly neither laziness, thriftlessness, or drunkenness answer the question, "Why this poverty?"

But to the problem of disease, in what way is our commercial system responsible, say, for consumption, is the query of the wage slave, amazed at the evidence put forward by the Socialist.

This is easily understood once it is realised that consumption is due to malnutrition; in other words, a lack of sufficient clothing, food, warmth, and proper conditions, both in the home, workshop, and factory. Now, the fact that people are without sufficient food and clothing is due not to a shortage of those things, since it is easily demonstrated there is superabundance, but due entirely to the fact that access cannot be gained to those things by the wage earners as a whole, because their wages enable them to purchase only a fraction of the actual wealth they create as a class.

The white scourge can therefore be laid at the door of our commercial system, while there are scores of other diseases to which flesh is heir, peculiar to the conditions pertaining to the various industries, all of which could be avoided were it not for our profit mongering system, and the fact that it does not suit the economic interests of our exploiters to improve the conditions in mine and mill. (In other words it does not pay.) Since capitalism means exploitation and production for profit in the interest of the few who are the masters of the means of life and the agencies of production. Since it means the power of a few to control the lives and destiny of the great mass of humanity. Since it means greater uncertainty for the average wage slave by virtue of the fact that every new labour saving machine displaces human labour, power, and augments the army of the unemployed. Can it be wondered at that the Socialist understanding the above, acquainted with the economic development taking place, realising that private ownership in land and machinery is harmful, should in season and out of season, in fair and foul weather, insist that in the interest of all the land which no man created and which should be the heritage of all, and the machinery of production and distribution, which are social products, should be socially owned, so that social ownership, social production, and social appropriation should take the place of private ownership, with its social production and private appropriation, and by doing so guarantee to all the right to a full, free, and happy existence.

Anarchists and Labor Agitators to be Shot.

A property owner near Wagga advertises in a local paper:—

"All Anarchists or Labour Agitators Found Trespassing on my Harefield Property will be shot. Poison laid for dogs."

This property owner doesn't say whether or not they will be eaten after being shot, but the spirit lurking in the "ad." seems to indicate that they will be treated as our cannibal forefathers used to treat those whom they found trespassing upon their property.

Germany is building 20 Zeppelin airships for war purposes, so the capitalist press informs us. After they are ready it is thought that Britain's superiority at sea will be somewhat discounted and the navy rendered useless as a protection to the property-owning class. Senator Pearce may soon be forced to re-cast or abandon his naval programme.

The Wail of the Prophets.

The Wickedness of the People.

Neglecting the Church and the Divine institution—the Collection Plate.

(J. W. R.)

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly in New Zealand and the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, of Auckland, have been discoursing lately on the wickedness of those people who will persist in ignoring their teaching, and who are drifting into that sinful habit of staying away from Church, and thereby neglecting that Divine institution, the collection plate, which has caused a considerable amount of wailing amongst the prophets of the Lord. The Moderator, Rev. A. Cameron, B.A., of Dunedin, wailed as follows:—

The Sabbath for multitudes had ceased to be a holy day, and was a holiday instead. The Word of God was neglected for the newspapers and the novel. Little wonder that in the lives of many gold had dethroned God, pleasure supplanted duty, and vice darkened the face of virtue. Life has so many gifts to bestow, so many open doors leading to lands of rich promise that earth rather than heaven attracts, and the need of a heavenly Father's help and comfort is lost.

No doubt it is wicked for those multitudes who are nearly all workers to have a holiday instead of a holy day. You see these wicked workers have to toil hard for six days per week to build up profits for the boss, and it is very selfish and sinful of them to have one day's relaxation in the week. They should remember that the poor Moderator and his black-coated brethren, who preach the "blessed Gospel" for a crust, have to live, and the blessed Sabbath is their pay-day. Marvel not that the Moderator is troubled in spirit. It is also exceedingly sinful to neglect the Word of God for the newspaper and the novel. It is terrible to think that people should be so depraved as to neglect to read the Old Testament, particularly such holy and highly moral incidents as the dealings of Jacob with his brother Esau and his father-in-law, Laban the Syrian. The matter of Jacob's sons and the men of Shechem, the story of Lot and his daughters: of David and Uriah's wife; and the account of countless other holy and pious deeds performed by the ancestors of the Moderator and his holy brethren. These incidents are surely of more value than any novel. It is very wicked to read newspapers, especially the "International Socialist" and the "Maori Land Worker." You will find nothing in such papers half as entertaining or as likely to encourage virtue as the story of the prophet Ezekiel and his special diet. I am surprised to learn that Gold has dethroned God. I have been under the impression, in my ignorance, that gold or its equivalent has always been God in disguise.

It is sad indeed to find that earth rather than heaven attracts, and the need of a heavenly Father's help and comfort is lost. When we consider how the Heavenly Father has helped us in the past with cyclones, shipwrecks, strikes, lockouts, earthquakes, diseases, contagious and otherwise, wars, murders, lunatics, divorce cases, volcanic eruptions, Moderators, priests, parsons, politicians, blacklegs, strike breakers, police pimps, detectives, capitalists, loafers, prostitutes, heat, cold, rain, wind, flood, fire and other things, our condition is very sad indeed if we have no "further need for these helps" and comforts. The Moderator's remarks brought many blessings to my soul, but I have not sufficient space to enumerate them.

The Very Rev. Father O'Connell, of Auckland, who appears to be a mighty man of valour and more vigorous of speech than his brother, the Moderator, denounced in thunderous tones those "whited sepulchres" parading the streets, adorning their bodies with all that money can buy, despising the authority of God and refusing to do what God has decreed. Surely it is sad to see the sinful workers who toil hard to make profits for the "boss" adorning themselves in all that money can buy, but the worst evil is that they "refuse to do what God has decreed." Of course they all know what God has decreed. The Very Rev. Father and the Rev. Moderator and all their ancestors have been explaining what God has decreed for two thousand years or so, and everyone knows all about those "decrees." Of course the ancestors of the two rev. gentlemen have differed somewhat about what God has "decreed," and a considerable amount of blood has been spilt over it, but that is neither here nor there. The Very Rev. Father also stated that "There was a great amount of child prevention and a great deal of child murder, and Catholic men and women had to be warned against these terrible evils."

The Very Rev. Father no doubt spoke as he was moved by the Holy Ghost. Being a bachelor himself, his knowledge of child-prevention would of course be limited, but being a spiritual father, instead of a natural one, he speaketh by inspiration. You will notice that he warns Catholic men and women only. He leaves the outsiders to his brother, the Moderator, or such other spiritual fathers as may be on hand. Speaking of spiritual fathers, certain profane per-

sons assert that large numbers of them are responsible for material children. Such persons should be severely punished in this world and "introduced into the refined society of the worm that never dies" in the next. Selah! There are also certain other very sinful and exceedingly profane persons, sometimes called "soap-box orators," who boldly assert that all the evils that the two Rev. gentlemen have mentioned—and a great many more that they have not mentioned—are the natural results of the present system of society. They say that society is divided into two classes, the capitalist class and the working class; that the working class produces all the world's wealth, that the capitalists take that wealth, and give a little of it back in the form of wages, which is just enough to keep the workers alive and enable them to keep on working to produce still more wealth for the capitalist robber class to take. Certain of these "prophets of Babel" assert that the Moderator, Rev. A. Cameron, B.A., of Dunedin, and the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, of Auckland, and their brethren, are supporters of the capitalist system, and are the tools of the capitalists; that they fill the minds of the workers with superstition, while their accomplices, the capitalists, rob the workers of the wealth they produce. I am afraid the rev. gentlemen will find it rather difficult to deal with these Sons of Belial. The good old days of Torquemada (of blessed memory) and the Inquisition are gone never to return, and the good old Scotch kirk is not as strong as it used to be, and the saintly Calvin is no more. Truly, the daughters of Zion sit desolate by the Waters of Babylon. There is nothing for it but "leave these descendants of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram to be dealt with beyond the grave. The Very Rev. Father will be able to consult Torquemada and the Rev. Moderator will be able to consult Calvin, and a particularly strong dose of fire and brimstone will bring these "soap box" people to their senses. Cheer up, dearly beloved brethren, and trust in the Lord that these Sabbath-breaking people will get their deserts by and bye.

Marx's Great Achievement.

Eleven years after the publication of the Communist Manifesto, Marx formulated in clear and precise fashion the directing principles of the materialistic interpretation of history in the preface to a book which is the forerunner of "Capital" (Zur Kritik der politischen Oekonomie, Berlin, 1859, pp. iv. vi. of the preface.) He says:—

"The first work which I undertook for the purpose of solving the doubts which perplexed me was a critical re-examination of Hegel's Philosophy of Law. The introduction of this work appeared in the German-French Year Books, published in Paris in 1844.

"My investigation ended in the conviction that legal relations and forms of government cannot be explained either by themselves or by the so-called general development of the human mind, but on the contrary, have their roots in the conditions of man's physical existence, whose totality, Ilegal, following the English and French writers of the eighteenth century, summed up under the name of civil society; and that the anatomy of civil society must be sought in political economy.

"The study of the later which I began at Paris, was continued at Brussels, whither I had betaken myself in consequence of an order of Guizot expelling me from France.

"The general result which I arrived at, and which, once obtained, served as a guide for my subsequent studies, can be briefly formulated as follows:—

"In making their livelihood together, men enter into certain necessary involuntary relations with each other, industrial relations which correspond to whatever stage society has reached in the development of its material productive forces.

"The totality of these industrial relations constitutes the economic structure of society, the real basis upon which the legal and political superstructure is built, and to which definite forms of social consciousness correspond.

"The method of producing the material livelihood determines the social, political and intellectual life process in general.

"It is not men's consciousness which determines their life; on the contrary, it is their social life which determines their consciousness.

"At a certain stage of their development the material productive forces of society come into conflict with the old conditions of production, or, to use a legal expression, with the old property relations under which these forces have hitherto been exerted. From forms of development of the productive forces these relations turn into fetters of production. Then begins an epoch of social revolution. With the change of the economic basis the whole vast superstructure undergoes, sooner or later, a revolution.

"In considering such revolutions one must constantly distinguish between the industrial revolution, to be carefully posited scientifically, which takes place in the economic conditions of production, and the legal, political, religious, artistic, or philosophical, in short ideological, forms wherein men become conscious of this conflict and fight it out. As little as we judge an individual by what he himself thinks he is, just as little can we judge such a revolutionary epoch by its own consciousness. We must rather explain

this consciousness out of the antagonisms of men's industrial life, out of the conflict existing between the forces of social production and the relations of social production.

"A form of society never breaks down until all the productive forces are developed, for which it affords room. New and higher relations of production are never established, until the material conditions of life to support them have been prepared in the lap of the old society itself. Therefore mankind always sets for itself only such tasks as it is able to perform; for upon close examination it will always be found that the task itself only arises where the material conditions for its solution are already at hand or at least in process of growth.

"We may in broad outlines characterise the Asiatic, the antique, the feudal and the modern capitalistic methods of production as progressive epochs in the economic evolution of society.

"The industrial relations arising out of the capitalistic method of production constitute the last of the antagonistic forms of social production: antagonistic not in the sense of an individual antagonism, but of an antagonism growing out of the social conditions of individuals.

"But the productive forces which are developed in the lap of capitalistic society create at the same time the material conditions needed for the abolition of this antagonism. The capitalist form of society, therefore, brings to a close this prelude to the history of human society."

Mr. Schey, Director of Labour, N.S. Wales Government Labour Bureau, in his periodical report to Parliament, advocates "the foundation of a compulsory labour establishment for the treatment of vagrants and loafers, who will not work, and who become a pest and a menace to the community." Mr. Schey draws strongly on a fertile imagination when he describes the number of "these prowlers" in the parks and gardens of Sydney, for the police on making a recent midnight raid only managed to capture four, so that as a "pest and a menace" the evil is insignificant. That there are many "loafers" in and about Sydney is apparent, but they don't gravitate to the parks and gardens. They feast at the most expensive hotels and restaurants, visit the Stock Exchange and the race-course, and never do a stroke of useful work. They have abundance of cash which they obtain by legalised confidence tricks, and they are clothed in the best that money can buy. Mr. Schey knows these facts, but he doesn't denounce such loafers as a "pest and a menace" to the community, nor does he advocate compelling them to work.

Sixty Senior Cadets mutinied at Zetland last week. They attended the parade ground at the usual time in the evening, and as the Johnny-officers didn't arrive to time the boys stampeded. Their subsequent actions were described by the press as "a riot," but they were only "bombarding" passers by with blue metal and charging buildings and throwing the inmates out. Is not military training and education calculated to develop this sort of thing? During war time they would be commanded to rain bullets upon the enemy and hunt him out of home.

Sentimental socialism has furnished some attempts at utopian construction, but the modern world of politics has presented and does present still more of them with the ridiculous and chaotic mess of laws and codes which surround every man from his birth to his death, and even before he is born and after he is dead, in an inextricable network of codes, laws, decrees and regulations which stifle him like the silk-worm in the cocoon.—Ferri.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

National Executive.

The Administrative Council will meet on Saturday at 115 Goulburn Street, at 3 p.m. All delegates should attend as business of importance has to be discussed.

The General Secretary wishes to hear from Comrades who will help to arrange propaganda meetings in centres outside of Sydney. If any Comrade can arrange meetings, the General Secretary will arrange to send speakers.

Address all communications to
H. L. DENFORD,
8 Stephen's Buildings, Windmill-St.
Millers Point, Sydney

Sydney.

During the past week, the Branch has carried on a series of good meetings in Park, Bathurst, and other streets. The audiences were large and appreciative, and bought literature readily, the "International Socialist" being in good demand.

On Sunday afternoon the Branch joined with the I.W.W. and the S.L.P. in a monster demonstration in the Domain to discuss the recent Waihi strike. P. H. Hickney, of the "Maoriland Worker" and New Zealand

Federation of Labour, was also present, and the audience numbered fully 3000.

The speakers delivered their addresses from a lorry, and their remarks, and the resolutions they submitted, were enthusiastically received and the resolutions carried almost unanimously.

Comrade Roche, of the Australian Socialist Party, occupied the Chair, and opened the meeting with a few well-chosen words, after which he read the first resolution, and called on D. Grant, of the Industrial Workers of the World, to move it.

Comrade Grant moved: "That this meeting of Sydney Workers congratulates the miners of Waihi and Reefton on their splendid fight against the organised capitalist forces of New Zealand, and we condemn unreservedly the introduction of the American thug methods of Strike-breaking assisted by the New Zealand Government."

The mover delivered a stirring speech and instanced many occasions where similar brutal tactics to those employed at Waihi had been adopted by the capitalist class.

Comrade T. Batho, of the Socialist Labour Party, seconded the resolution in a good speech, in which he showed the futility of present-day political palliatives, and the need for nothing short of complete revolutionary Socialism.

P. H. Hickney, New Zealand Federation of Labour, supported the resolution, and paid a warm tribute to the Unionists of the Commonwealth. He had travelled every State on behalf of the Waihi and Reefton strikers, and had addressed scores of meetings, and been well received everywhere, excepting at the Sydney Trades Hall, where his mission had been turned down. He vigorously denounced the officials of the Trades Hall, and said that they had, by turning the cause of the strikers down, assisted the scabs, thugs, and mine owners of New Zealand against the men on strike. The Executive had worked the delegates of the various unions, whose members were with the strikers, with the result that they had scabbed on those who were fighting for the life of unionism. He felt sure that the members of their various unions were not truly represented by the officials at the Trades Hall. The Wharf labourers, Coal Lumpers, and various miners' unions had, like other unions not affiliated with the Trades Council, contributed generously, showing that the workers of New South Wales were as good unionists as were those elsewhere.

The resolution was then put and enthusiastically carried.

Comrade Jones, Australasian Socialist Party moved:

"That we affirm the absolute necessity of working-class organisation and solidarity for the purpose of abolishing the capitalist system and for the establishment of the Socialist Commonwealth."

Comrade Jones wittily and humorously criticised the present system, and evoked much laughter by presenting its many absurdities in a ludicrous light. After letting his hearers have a good laugh at Capitalism, Comrade Jones grew serious, and pictured its horrors in vivid colours, winding up with a stirring appeal to all to do their share in overthrowing Capitalism.

Comrade Glynn, I.W.W., seconded the resolution, and described what he had seen of capitalistic brutality in many parts of the world where he had travelled. Everywhere capitalists employed the same brutal tactics as were adopted at Waihi, and the workers here could expect the same in future struggles.

The resolution was carried with one dissentient.

Comrade Julian moved—

"That, after having heard P. H. Hickney's speech, we condemn the action of the Sydney Labour Council for their anti-working class attitude in turning down the Waihi and Reefton miners."

Comrade Whitmore briefly seconded the resolution, which was then carried.

The meeting closed with cheers for the Waihi and Reefton men, and groans for the enemy.

The meeting was a great success, and was significant for the way in which the various revolutionary bodies came together for a common object. Opinions were freely expressed that it would be better if the combination was permanent instead of the various revolutionary bodies being split into sections, as they are at present. All have one common object—the overthrow of Capitalism and the emancipation of the working class—and united action, if it could be brought about, would hasten the accomplishment of the aims of all.

The Branch held three good meetings in the city on Sunday night.

At Martin Place Comrades Riley Roche, and Slade delivered addresses to an attentive and appreciative audience.

At Market street, Gordon, Mandeno, Gleicher, and Slade held a good meeting and received a patient hearing.

At Park-street, Condren, Whitmore, Riley and Denford held forth to an audience of several hundreds, who listened attentively till after ten o'clock.

The "International Socialist" was in good demand at each meeting, the available supply being all sold. Other literature also sold well, indicating that the spirit of inquiry is at work impelling thoughtful people to study the Socialist Philosophy.

Brisbane.

Dear Comrade,—Since my last report our hearts have been gladdened by the news of the release from prison of the Lawrence strike leaders. We must congratulate our comrades on the failure of the American capitalists' plot.

Saturday night at William St., G. Beadnell had the chair. Alf. Rees was the first speaker. He dealt ably with the causes and cure of the ever-recurring financial crises, pointing out that each succeeding panic is more far reaching and devastating in its effects, foreshadowing the ultimate breakdown of the system.

Jack Read gave a spirited and moving address on Industrial Unionism, pointing out the utter uselessness of craft unionism to the workers, under the scientific concentration of industry. The writer dealt fully with the Waihi strike, refuting the lying statements of the prostituted press of Brisbane. The crowd listened with the greatest attention to the unrefutable evidence of organised brutality by the scabs and police from the statements of eye-witnesses published in the "Maoriland Worker." It was pointed out that the reason for the exceeding bitterness displayed towards the N.Z.F.L. and the I.W.W. by the capitalist is the realization that class-conscious industrial organization is the final stage in the age-long struggle of the workers for economic freedom.

Andy Anderson finished up a fine meeting by taking to task a leading light of the Labour Party, who interjected with the assertion that "the supremacy of the capital class is due to the fact that they have more brains than the workers." Andy was in fine fettle, and proved to the satisfaction of the listeners that any person who was capable of displaying such colossal ignorance of economics could not be burdened with an excessive amount of grey matter in his thinking apparatus. As the interjector happened to be a contractor who lives upon the surplus value produced by his wage slaves, the illustration was apt and to the point.

Papers and literature sold well.

At the rooms, Stanley St., on Sunday night, Comrade Jackson lectured on I. W. W. Ism v. Trade Unionism. The room was well filled, and Comrade Jackson's manner of handling the subject was a treat. From the commencement of the Trade Union movement in England through all the struggles, fights, and victories of the organised workers, the lecturer traced the history of working class agitation, showing the necessity for the Craft Union in the early days of Industrial Development, and its failure to meet the conditions of to-day. The introduction of machinery and the consequent concentration of industry make it essentially imperative for the workers to organise, not on a craft, but on a class basis with the object of overthrowing the system and bringing about the economic emancipation of the Proletariat.

E. BRADY, Secy.

Newtown.

The meeting held here on last Saturday night surpassed any that has been held for some time. After a somewhat lengthy address by the chairman, Comrades Duffield, Walsh, and Slade carried on the speech-making with unflinching vigour until ten o'clock, when our local John Hops politely invited us all to take a stroll. The Socialist orators told their fellow-workers in an explicit way that it was due to the workers' lack of economic knowledge and disunity that the Capitalistic State did exist with all its social inequalities and moral maladies, and urged upon them the necessity for a proletarian international union. The interjectors consisted of a few of the Fisher firm's customers, who succeeded, as usual, in exhibiting to more intelligent men their utter ignorance of the economic question.

Comrade Walsh announced the party's intention of contesting the Federal constituency of Cook at the next election.

The meeting closed with good disposals of papers.

Wollongong.

Coms. Denford and Brown visited Wollongong on Saturday last to hold meetings under the Party's auspices.

When they arrived at the meeting place they were informed by the police that they were not to be allowed to speak on Socialism in the streets of Wollongong.

A soap-vendor had been stopped also, the police informing him that they intended to stop the Socialists from speaking, and that being so, they couldn't very well allow him to continue, as it would look as if they were singling the Socialists out for a special attack.

When Denford opened the meeting, a policeman stepped up and ordered him to cease speaking. On his refusal, his name was duly taken.

After Denford concluded, Brown took the box, and was also interviewed by the representatives of the law. His name was also duly registered. The police continued their interference, and the speakers moved to an adjoining balcony, and proceeded to deliver their message. The police, however, were not to be balked, and the speakers being on (sacred) private property, they com-

menced to move the audience on. Those who objected were asked for their names, and those who refused to give them were taken towards the police station, and released on the way. What the motive of this interference is it not hard to divine. Certain gentlemen, in high positions of authority in the ministry and government departments—are working the police to prevent the spread of Socialism. They imagine that this can be done by summoning, fining, and gaoling Socialist speakers, but they should remember that on every previous occasion they have failed by such tactics. J. R. Wilson, J. W. Roche, and others have suffered for freedom of speech and Socialism, but they returned to the attack immediately they gained their liberty. They were temporarily silenced, but they have since got even by redoubling their efforts, and the police no longer interfere with them. The Wollongong police cannot succeed where the police of other parts of the world have failed.

Next Saturday night a meeting will be held at O'Brien's Hotel to take steps towards the formation of a branch of the Australasian Socialist Party at Wollongong. All workers are invited to attend.

International Socialist Club.

The next Monthly Meeting of the above Club will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m.

K. G. DRUHMEI, Secy.

Sydney Propaganda Fixtures.

SATURDAY.

Rozelle—M. Moore, Bowen, Talbot, Leichhardt—Young, Slade.
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn.
Bathurst St., Gordon Chair, Whitmore.

SUNDAY.

Afternoon: Domain, Mandeno Chair, Whitmore, Slade, Jones, Brown.
Evening: Market-street—Green (Chair), Quinton, Jones, Gleicher.
Park-st., Gordon Chair, Whitmore, Slade, Mandeno.
Balmain—C. Moore, Talbot, Nelson.
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn.

Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged, £32 11s. 6d. Collected at Club Social 3s 11d, Otto Muus, Q'land, 6s 11d, Fred Gray 2s, James Smith 1s. Total £33 7s 4d.

Socialist Publishing and Jobbing Plant.

Amount previously acknowledged £21 5s, A. McKelvie 2s 6d. Total £24 7s 6d.

Anti-Militarist Postcards.

1st. Series printed by the Marxian Press.

Set of Four 3d. Per doz 9d. Larger Quantities at 6d. per doz.

Cash must accompany all orders.

International Socialist Club,

274 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Open daily for Members and Visitors from other parts, from 11 a.m. till 11 p.m.

Best Socialist Library in the Commonwealth.

5s. per Quarter.

K. G. DRUHMEI, Secretary.

Sydney Branch,

Australasian Socialist Party.

Meetings of the above branch are held at Queen's Hall every alternate Thursday, at 7.45 p.m.

Propaganda meetings held every Saturday evening at corner of Bathurst and George Streets, Sunday afternoon, Domain, Sunday evening, Market and Park Streets at 7.30 p.m.

CERT. WHITMORE, Secretary,
115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.

Perth Branch.

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Literary Institute, Hay Street.

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